

THE DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE  
AND THE PETER AND JUDY JACKSON MUSIC PROGRAM PRESENT

# AN EVENING OF PERCUSSION

SALISBURY PERCUSSION FESTIVAL 2023



**Thursday, April 20, 2023**  
Holloway Hall Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.

**Salisbury**  
UNIVERSITY

Make Tomorrow Yours

# PROGRAM

## AN EVENING OF PERCUSSION ECHOES OF AFRICA

Little Sea Gongs (1997).....Gareth Farr (b. 1968)

\*\*9 Moons (2023).....Nyokabi Kariūki (b. 1998)

Elephant Man from Ibo Land (1991)..... Warren Smith (b. 1934)

\*Magic Man (2022).....Eric Gehl (b. 2001)

\*Flash-Back (1981).....Joe Hisaishi (b. 1950)  
arr. Eric Shuster

30's (1970)..... Jon Gibson (1940-2020)

David Gladden, visuals

\*World premiere

\*\*Commissioned by the Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble

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The **Salisbury University Percussion Ensemble**, directed by Eric Shuster, presents new, classic and underperformed works for percussion in the spirit of the genre's experimental roots in 1930s and 1940s America. The ensemble, made up of music majors and non-majors, has a tradition of collaborating with faculty, students and guest artists in the creation of new pieces and has been featured at the Percussive Arts Society MD/DE Day of Percussion. In addition to their semi-annual Evening of Percussion programs, the ensemble co-presents an annual Friday Drums concert with the University of Maryland, Baltimore County Percussion Ensemble and appears regularly for New Music Salisbury events. The ensemble was formed in 2012 to celebrate the 100th birthday of avant-garde composer and early percussion innovator John Cage.

An Evening of Percussion  
Thursday, April 20, 2023  
Holloway Hall Auditorium  
7:30 p.m.

## **SALISBURY UNIVERSITY PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE**

### **ERIC SHUSTER, DIRECTOR**

Eric Gehl

Chris Lankford

Lilandra Hayes

Donnell Robinson

### **PROGRAM NOTES**

Our spring program “Echoes of Africa” was designed as a complement to our fall program Africa and the World. This time, we explore the impact of African culture and music on musicians of the West and East in conjunction with other styles.

We begin with Gareth Farr’s *Little Sea Gongs*, inspired by the log-drumming music from Rarotonga, the largest of Cook Islands.

With support of a Fulton Public Humanities Grant, we present *9 Moons* by Kenyan composer Nyokabi Kariūki. Kariūki shared: “I imagine a little cartoon character, perhaps in a video game; jumping from one moon to the next, discovering a new peculiar thing on each one.”

American percussionist and founding member of the percussion ensemble M’Boom (with jazz drummer Max Roach), Warren Smith composed *Elephant Man from Ibo Land* while in Lagos, Nigeria. Special thanks to William Vanden Dries at Indiana University’s Archives of African American Music and Culture for providing performance materials for this out-of-print piece.

*Magic Man* was written as a study in rondo form and marks the debut percussion ensemble composition by Eric Gehl (SU ’24).

Joe Hisaishi, most well-known today as the composer for Hayao Miyazaki / Studio Ghibli films, composed *Flash-Back* and other percussion works integrating minimalism, African rhythms and electronica with Midori Takada and the Japanese Mkwaju Ensemble for their self-titled first album.

We close the program with our realization of the indeterminate composition *30’s* by composer, multi-instrumentalist and visual artist Jon Gibson, who worked alongside the seminal minimalist composers Terry Riley, Philip Glass and Steve Reich.

*Program Notes by Eric Shuster*

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Dr. Karen Olmstead, *Provost and Senior Vice President of Academic Affairs*  
Dr. Maarten Pereboom, *Dean, Fulton School of Liberal Arts*  
John Raley, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
Colleen Clark, *Co-Chair, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
Suzanna Mallow, *Production Director, Department of Music, Theatre & Dance*  
Brooke Church, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
Shawn Stone, *Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
Jeff Hahn, *Piano Technician, Department of Music, Theatre and Dance*  
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If you would like to make a donation to support the **Peter and Judy Jackson Music Program**, please make your check payable to the Salisbury University Foundation, Inc., specifying **Jackson Music Program** in the memo line, and mail in care of the Salisbury University Foundation, Inc. at P.O. Box 2655, Salisbury, MD 21802.

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For more information about our academic program, please visit us at  
[www.salisbury.edu/performingarts](http://www.salisbury.edu/performingarts).

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### Make Tomorrow Yours

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